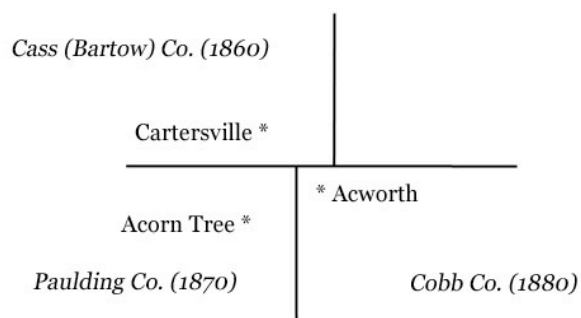




## Finding the Parents of William H. Welch, Through Indirect Evidence

*Identifying parents of an individual when no record directly states the relationship is sometimes difficult. Using probate records and the laws in effect at the time can resolve unanswered questions.*

The case of William H. Welch, who died in Paulding County, Georgia, in 1894, offers an example. William and his wife, Sarah, lived in three counties during the last forty years of their lives: Paulding, and neighboring Cobb, and Cass (now Bartow<sup>1</sup>) counties. The townships they lived in were all within a twenty-mile radius of where the three counties meet and the direct path that Sherman took to Atlanta, burning many records along the way.<sup>2</sup> Cartersville is about 18 miles north of Acorn Tree and about 13 miles north west of Acworth.



The family can be identified by the household structure over a thirty-year period of William H. Welch:

<sup>1</sup> An original county created for the 1832 Gold & Land Lottery, Cass County was named for General Lewis Cass. When he sided with the abolitionists, during the Civil War, residents renamed it for Col. Francis S. Bartow, the first Georgia officer to be killed at Manassas. See Chantal Parker & NGE Staff, *New Georgia Encyclopedia* (<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia> : accessed 19 January 2015), “Bartow County.”

<sup>2</sup> *The State of Georgia, Showing the Major Campaign Areas and Engagement Sites of The War Between The States, 1861–1865*, (Georgia: Georgia Department of Commerce, 1961); digital image, *Library of Congress, Civil War Maps* (<http://www.loc.gov/item/map62000332/> : accessed 19 January 2015).

1850 Henry Co. <sup>a</sup>	1860 Cass Co. <sup>b</sup>	1870 Paulding Co. <sup>c</sup>	1880 Cobb Co. <sup>d</sup>
Wm. H. Welch, 25, m, SC	W. Welch, 34, m, SC	William Welch, 46, m, SC	William Welch, 56, m, SC
Sarah Welch, 19, f, GA	S. Welch, 34, f, GA	Sarah Welch, 41, f, GA	Sarah Welch, 51, wife, GA
L.A. Francis, 2, f, GA	L. Welch, 11, f, GA		
	L. Welch, 9, f, GA		
	A. Welch, 7, f, GA	Mary [Angie] Welch, 17, f, GA <sup>e</sup>	
	W. Welch, 5, f, GA	Winnie Welch, 14, f, GA	
	T. Welch, 1. m. GA	Thomas, 11, m, GA	
		James Welch, 4, m, GA	[James] Franklin Welch, 14, son, GA <sup>f</sup>
		Gustavus Welch, 1, m, GA	Gustous Welch, 11, son, GA
			George W. Welch, 5, son, GA
			Ellender Graves, 77, aunt, GA

a. 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 224B, dwelling 516, family 516, Wm H. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing National Archives microfilm publication M432, roll 73.

b. 1860 U.S. census, Cass County, Georgia, population schedule, Cartersville, p. 731, dwelling 768, family 735, W. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 114.

c. 1870 U.S. census, Paulding County, Georgia, population schedule, Acorn Tree, p. 379, dwelling 46, family 46, William Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 10 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 168.

d. 1880 U.S. census, Cobb County, Georgia, population schedule, Acworth, ED 27, p. 14, dwelling 251, family 252, William Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 10 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 141.

e. For full name of Mary Angie Welch, Paulding County, Georgia, Marriage Book 2:75, SA Yearwood & MA Welch (10 December 1871); Paulding County Probate Clerk, Dallas. Springs Chapel Cemetery (Hugo, Choctaw County, Oklahoma), Mary Angie Earwood marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, July 1994.

f. For full name of James Franklin Welch, Paulding County, Georgia, Marriages, 1892–1906, p. 84, J.F. Welch & Maggie Moon, 15 February 1894; “Georgia County Marriages, 1785–1950,” database and images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 8 September 2015), imaged from FHL microfilm 419,170. 1900 U.S. census, Paulding County, Georgia, population schedule, Dallas, ED 78, p. 101, dwelling/family 69, Frank J. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 11 September 2014); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 215. *Find A Grave*, database and images

(<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 8 September 2015), memorial no. 45,671,683, James Franklin Welch, Sr. (1866–1947), photo by Devona; citing Dallas City Cemetery, Paulding County, Georgia.

## BACKGROUND

William H. Welch was born in South Carolina, 22 September 1824.<sup>3</sup> He married Sarah Hunt in Henry County, Georgia, 17 December 1845.<sup>4</sup> Henry County is south of Atlanta and was near the path that Sherman took on his March to the Sea. The county was spared the devastation of record destruction that other counties suffered.

William and Sarah had the following children:

- i. Lucy Ann Frances Welch, born 15 February 1848, died 18 February 1901.<sup>5</sup>
- ii. L. Welch, born ca. 1851<sup>6</sup>
- iii. Mary Angeline Welch, born 24 February 1853 and died 21 December 1936<sup>7</sup>
- iv. Winnie Welch, born ca. 1856<sup>8</sup>
- v. Thomas Washington Welch, born 22 December 1858, died 8 October 1938<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> New Canaan Cemetery, (Dallas, Paulding County, Georgia), William H. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, June 2006. 1850 U.S. census, Henry Co., Ga., pop. sch., Dist. 42, p. 224B, dwelling/family 516, Wm H. Welch. 1860 U.S. census, Cass Co., Ga., pop. sch., p. 731, W. Welch. 1870 U.S. census, Paulding Co., Ga., pop. sch., p. 379, William Welch. 1880 U.S. census, Cobb Co., Ga., pop. sch., p. 14, William Welch.

<sup>4</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Marriage Records, 1822–1851:336, Welch-Hunt, 1845; Probate Court Clerk, McDonough.

<sup>5</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), memorial no. 14,052,746, Lucy Ann Welch Northcutt (1848–1901), photographed by Bob Fleming; citing Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Briscoe County, Texas. 1900 U.S. census, Briscoe County, Texas, population schedule, ED 8, p. 29, dwelling 59, family 62, John A. Northcutt; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 10 September 2015); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1650.

<sup>6</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Cass County, Georgia, population schedule, Cartersville, p. 731, dwelling 768, family 735, Wm H. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 114.

<sup>7</sup> Oklahoma State Department of Health, death certificate no. 06754 (1936), Mrs. Angie Earwood; Vital Records Service, Oklahoma City. Springs Chapel Cemetery (Hugo, Choctaw County, Oklahoma), Mary Angie Earwood marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 1994.

<sup>8</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Cass Co., Geo., pop. sch., Cartersville, p. 731, dwell. 768, fam. 735, Wm H. Welch. 1870 U.S. census, Paulding Co., Ga., pop. sch., Acorn Tree, p. 379, dwell./fam. 46, William Welch.

<sup>9</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), memorial no. 52,510,847, Thomas Washington Welch (1858–1938), photograph by Howard Cobb; citing Omaha Cemetery, Omaha, Morris County, Texas. “Texas, Death Certificates, 1903–1982,” *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 May 2010), death certificate image, Thomas Washington Welch, 8 October 1938, citing Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics.

- vi. James Franklin Welch, born 24 April 1866, died 20 August 1947<sup>10</sup>
- vii. Gustavous Welch, born March 1869, died 11 May 1955<sup>11</sup>
- viii. Sarah Jane Welch, born 15 November 1871 and died 7 July 1879<sup>12</sup>
- ix. George Taylor Welch, born 3 March 1875, died 17 June 1934<sup>13</sup>

William died 9 October 1894 and Sarah on 6 May 1900.<sup>14</sup> No document has been found that names William's mother or father directly. Many user-submitted Member Trees on *Ancestry* contain mixed information on the Welch families of Henry County, Georgia. None name William's mother. The 1880 census of Acworth Township in Cobb County provides a clue. Living in William's household is Ellender Graves, age 77, his aunt.<sup>15</sup> This indicates she is either the sister or sister-in-law of one of his parents.

#### IDENTIFYING ELLENDER GRAVES

Ellender Graves was born 5 April 1803, and died 12 June 1883. She is buried next to her husband, Alexander Graves, in Cobb County, Georgia.<sup>16</sup> No will or probate was found for her in Cobb or Paulding County.<sup>17</sup> Eleanor Harrison married Alexander on 25 January

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<sup>10</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), memorial no. 45,671,683, James Franklin Welch (1866–1947), photograph by “Devona”; citing Dallas City Cemetery, Dallas, Paulding County, Georgia. “Georgia Deaths, 1919–1998,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), death index entry for J.F. Welch Sr., 20 August 1947; citing certificate no. 17614 Georgia Health Department, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

<sup>11</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Paulding Co., Geo., pop. sch., Acorn Tree, p. 379, dwell. 46, fam. 46, William Welch. “Georgia Deaths, 1919–1998,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), death index entry for Custavus Welch, 11 May 1955; citing certificate no. 13082 Georgia Health Department, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

<sup>12</sup> Judy Cronen, “Crossroads Baptist Church Cemetery,” transcription, *GAGenWeb: Paulding County* (<http://hiddenancestors.com/pauldingga/cemetery/Crossroads.html> : accessed 17 July 2017), entries for Welch.

<sup>13</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 6 February 2015), memorial no. 45,671,760, George Taylor Welch (1875–1934), photograph by “Devona”; citing Dallas City Cemetery, Dallas, Paulding County, Georgia. “Georgia Deaths, 1928–1939,” *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 8 September 2015), death certificate image, George T. Welch, 17 June 1934; citing Department of Health and Vital Statistics, Georgia Archives.

<sup>14</sup> New Canaan Cemetery, (Dallas, Georgia), William H. Welch & Sarah H. Welch markers, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, June 2006.

<sup>15</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Cobb Co., Ga., pop. sch., Acworth, ED 27, p. 14, dwell. 251, fam. 252, William Welch.

<sup>16</sup> Liberty Hill Cemetery (Acworth, Cobb County, Georgia), Elender Graves & Alexander Graves markers, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 2 June 2014.

<sup>17</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 4 January 2014), search for Graves surname, Paulding

1859, in Henry County.<sup>18</sup> She was almost fifty-six years old at the time of her marriage. Could this be a second marriage or was her maiden name Harrison? Henry County records answer that question.

Two Harrison's are listed in the Proceedings Index of Henry County: William and Winney Harrison.<sup>19</sup> William died intestate before 2 March 1857, when Wesley C. Welch was appointed administrator.<sup>20</sup> William's estate was divided according to Georgia law:

- Distributions of estates were divided equally between the widow and children;
- If any child pre-deceased the intestate, their lineal descendants would stand in their place.<sup>21</sup>

William's widow, Winney, died a few weeks after he did on 10 April 1857, before his estate was settled.<sup>22</sup> Vouchers in his probate show the charges for medicine, visits, and mileage for Dr. T.M. Sims, and, for bitters from Dr. L.M. Tye between 3–10 April.<sup>23</sup> Dr.

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County, Wills and Estates, 1878–1901; Court of Ordinary records, 1867–1885; Miscellaneous Estate Records, 1865–1938; Returns & Vouchers, 1885–1890. Cobb County, Georgia, Ordinary Court Minutes, Book B, 1880–1888, Cobb County, Georgia, Probate Records, Georgia Archives, Morrow. A search of unbound Estate Records in Cobb County Ordinary Court Clerk's Office found a listing for Eleanor Graves, Administrator, file 00-P-1315-01, 2 February 1883; the clerk could not locate the file. Also, *The Brantley Association of America: The Cobb County Project* (<http://www.brantleyassociation.com> : accessed 24 October 2014) digital images.

<sup>18</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Marriages 1851–1868, p. 155, Alexander Graves & Eleanor Harrison, 25 January 1859; digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 17 April 2013); citing FHL microfilm 175,290.

<sup>19</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 15 May 2014) Henry County, General Index To Proceedings of Estates, 1821–1939, Harrison surname, image 292–293 of 676; digital image from FHL microfilm 175,296.

<sup>20</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Probate Proceeding Index, 1821–1939, entries for William Harrison, 1857; Probate Court Clerk's Office, McDonough. The administration is listed in the index as being in Minutes Book 1854–1864:188 and Bond Book A:172: both of these books are missing and the clerk did not know what had happened to them.

<sup>21</sup> Thomas R.R. Cobb, *1851 Cobb's Digest, Vol. 1*, (Athens, GA: Christy, Kelsea & Burke, 1851) p. 251 and Howell Cobb, *1859 Cobb's Compilation*, (New York: Edward O. Jenkins, 1859), p. 746; digital images, *University of Georgia Law, Historic Georgia Digests and Codes* ([http://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/ga\\_code/](http://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/ga_code/) : accessed 19 April 2013).

<sup>22</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 23 May 2014), memorial no. 31,852,382, Winney Harrison (1787-1857), photographs by Jennifer Moore; citing New Hope United Methodist Cemetery, Locust Grove, Henry County, Georgia.

<sup>23</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 19 April 2013), Henry County, Vouchers 1856–1878, Volume B:164, Wm Harrison, 1858; citing FHL microfilm 175,317.

Sims lived two households from William H. Welch in the 1850 census.<sup>24</sup> There was an influenza epidemic in 1857–1859 in North and South America and Europe.<sup>25</sup> William and Winney died so close together that it is possible they died from influenza. William Harrison's estate was divided as follows:

William Harrison estate distributions

Name	Stated Relationship	Amount
W.C. Welch, administrator of Winney Harrison, decd.	Widow	\$699.30
Michelbey Edwards, “in right of my wife, Elizabeth”		\$699.30
Edmund Stallworth, “in right of my wife, Lucinda”		\$699.30
Eleanor Harrison	Daughter	\$699.30
R.T. Sappington, “in right of my wife, Amanda E. Harrison, formerly”	Grandchild	\$349.65
T.H. Harrison	Heir	\$349.65
W.B. Welch		\$174.82
Gustavus W. Welch	“my right, title & interest in and upon the estate of my mother Lidia Welch, decd., daughter of Wlm. Harrison”	\$174.82
Wm. H. Welch		\$174.82
James F. Welch		\$174.82
“Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="http://www.familysearch.org">http://www.familysearch.org</a> : accessed 10 May 2014), Henry County, Returns, 1853– 1881, Volume B:462–66 Wm Harrison, 1858; citing FHL microfilm 175,311.		

These distributions suggest William had the following children and grandchildren:

<sup>24</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 224B, dwelling 516, family 516, Wm H. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 73.

<sup>25</sup> *Wikipedia* (<http://www.wikipedia.org>), “List of Epidemics,” rev. 10:38, 7 January 2015.

1. Lucinda Harrison, born ca. 1802, South Carolina, and died before 1870.<sup>26</sup> She married Edmund Stallsworth ca. 1826, based on age of their first child.<sup>27</sup> No marriage record found in Henry or surrounding counties<sup>28</sup> and South Carolina did not record marriages until 1911.
2. Eleanor/Ellender Harrison, born 5 April 1803, South Carolina, and died 12 June 1883, probably Cobb County.<sup>29</sup> She married Alexander Graves, 25 January 1859, Henry County.<sup>30</sup>
3. Lydia Harrison, likely born ca. 1805–1810 and died between 1833–1837.<sup>31</sup> She married Wesley C. Welch, 9 March 1828, Butts County, Georgia. Her share was divided into fourths. Only Gustavous named his mother in the vouchers but the equal division indicates Lydia had four children:
  - i. William H. Welch
  - ii. Whitfield B. Welch
  - iii. James F. Welch
  - iv. Gustavous W. Welch

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<sup>26</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Mount Carmel, p. 831, dwelling 322, family 322, Edmund Stalsworth; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 127. And 1870 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Militia Dist. 496, p. 424, dwelling 1250, family 1250, Edmond Stallworth; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 157.

<sup>27</sup> 1830 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, p. 244, Edmund Stallsworth; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 28 October 2014); citing NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 18.

<sup>28</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785–1950,” database and digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 May 2014), entries searched for Harrison and Stallsworth.

<sup>29</sup> Liberty Hill Cemetery (Acworth, Cobb County, Georgia), Elender Graves marker. 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 222, dwelling 494, family 494, Edmund Stalsworth; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 73. 1860 U.S. census, Paulding County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 1081, p. 768, dwelling 428, family 423, A. Graves; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 133.

<sup>30</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785–1950,” index and images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 17 April 2013), Alexander Graves and Eleanor Harrison, 1859.

<sup>31</sup> Lydia likely died between the birth of her last child, Gustavous W. in 1833 and Wesley C. Welch’s next child born in 1837: “Georgia, Confederate Pension Applications, 1879–1960,” digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), G.W. Welch, 1889. “Confederate Records,” digital images, *Fold3*, (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed 22 May 2014), G.W. Welch, Co. B, 53rd Regiment Georgia Infantry. *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), memorial no. 13,402,140, John W. Welch (1838–1884), photographs by Kelly Guess; citing Sardis Baptist Church Cemetery, McDonough, Henry County, Georgia.

4. James Harrison, born ca. 1805–1810 and died before 11 September 1834.<sup>32</sup> His share divided between his children:
- i. Amanda Elizabeth Harrison, born ca. 1832 and died after 1880.<sup>33</sup> She first married Elbert Carroll, 24 January 1849, Butts County.<sup>34</sup> She next married Richard T. Sappington, 5 December 1853, Henry County.<sup>35</sup>
  - ii. Thomas H. Harrison, born ca. 1833.<sup>36</sup>
5. Elizabeth Harrison, born ca. 1810–1815, married McKilbury Edwards, 12 September 1835, Henry County.<sup>37</sup>

Ellender is enumerated in the household of her brother-in-law, Edmund Stallsworth, in 1850, and she is likely the extra female in his household in 1840. Her age is listed about ten years off in the 1850 census. It is likely that Edmund or one of his older children gave the ages to the enumerator and did not know her age.

Edmund Stallsworth census households

1840 <sup>a</sup>	1850 <sup>b</sup>
Male 40–50	Edmund Stalsworth, m, 55
Female 30–39	L. Stalsworth, f, 48
Female 30–39	E. Harrison, f, 36 [46]
Male 20–29 <i>Unknown male</i>	
Female 15–19 <i>Unknown female</i>	
Male 10–14	T.H. Stalsworth, m, 23
Female 10–14	M.A. Stalsworth, f, 20
Male 5–9	E. Stalsworth, m, 18
Female under 5	N. Stalsworth, f, 15

<sup>32</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 19 April 2013), Butts County, Inventories and Appraisements, 1826–1845, Volume A:323, James Harrison; citing FHL microfilm 164,764.

<sup>33</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Freestone County, Texas, population schedule, E.D. 55, p. 543A, dwelling and family 1, RF Sappington; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 October 2014); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1304.

<sup>34</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785–1950,” database and digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 May 2014), entry for Elizabeth Harrison, 1849, citing FHL microfilm 164,757.

<sup>35</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785–1950,” database and digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 May 2014), entry for Mrs. Amanda E. Carroll, 1853, citing FHL microfilm 175,290.

<sup>36</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990, Butts County, Returns and Vouchers 1853–1856,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 May 2014), Thomas Harrison, 271–272. Final voucher to Thomas from his guardian, R.W. McCune, dated 7 February 1854, would have been near the time he turned 21.

<sup>37</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785–1950,” database and digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 23 May 2014), entry for Elizabeth Harrison, 1835.

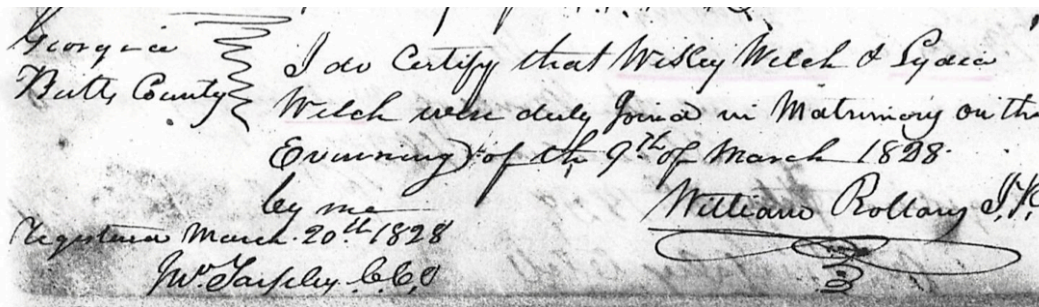


Female under 5 <i>Unknown female</i>	
	S. Stalsworth, m, 7
<p>a. 1840 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 767, p. 317, Edmund Stallsworth; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (<a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 16 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 43.</p> <p>b. 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 22, dwelling 494, family 494, Edmund Stalsworth; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (<a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 17 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 73.</p>	

William's aunt, Ellender, was clearly the daughter of William Harrison and the sister of Lucinda Stallsworth, Elizabeth Edwards, James Harrison, and Lydia Welch.

LYDIA HARRISON WELCH

Ellender's sister, Lydia, married Wesley C. Welch on 9 March 1828—more than three years after William's birth in September 1824. Their marriage return shows Lydia's name was Welch before her marriage to Wesley:<sup>38</sup>



South Carolina did not require marriage licenses until 1 July 1911. If Lydia was married in South Carolina, where William H. was reportedly born, no record exists. A search of probate and guardianship records found no deceased husband for Lydia in the South Carolina or Georgia counties they were known to live in.<sup>39</sup> Lydia was most likely married to a Welch, William H.'s father, before she married Wesley.

<sup>38</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785-1950,” digital image, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 April 2013), Wesley Welch and Lydia Welch, 9 March 1828; citing FHL microfilm 164,757.

<sup>39</sup> Pauline Young, compiler, *Records of Will Books of County of Abbeville (Ninety-Six District) South Carolina* (Washington, DC: Annie Walker Burns, 1947). Edgefield County, South Carolina, Will and Probate Indexes, 1787–1957; FHL microfilm 162,236 & 23,870. GE Lee Corley Hendrix, compiler, *Indexes of Edgefield Coutny, S.C. Volume 1, Probate Records*, (self published, Greenville, SC:1979). “Georgia Probate Records, 1742–1990,” *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 2013–2014), Henry and Butts Counties, surname of Harrison and Welch.

Documents created during Wesley's life and at his death support this hypothesis. He married four times outliving three wives before he died. He had children with three of the wives:

- Lydia Harrison, married 9 March 1828
  - i. Whitfield B. Welch, likely born 30 December 1828, Henry County<sup>40</sup>
  - ii. James Franklin Welch, born 1831, died 1862<sup>41</sup>
  - iii. Gustavous W. Welch, likely born 4 June 1833, Butts or Henry County<sup>42</sup>
  
- Sophronia Harris, married ca. 1837<sup>43</sup>
  - iv. John W. Welch, born 1838<sup>44</sup>
  - v. Lucy A. Welch, born 1840<sup>45</sup>
  - vi. Gamaliel M. Welch, born ca. 1845, likely died 1863<sup>46</sup>
  - vii. Laura Welch, born 1846<sup>47</sup>
  - viii. Naomi F. Welch, born 1848<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> New Hope United Methodist Cemetery (Locust Grove, Henry County, Georgia), Whitfield B. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 17 October 2014. For birthplace, "Georgia, Confederate Pension Applications, 1879–1960," digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 May 2014), W.B. Welch and Mrs. E.J. Welch.

<sup>41</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 191B, dwelling 61, family 61, W. C. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 73. "Confederate Records," digital images, *Fold3*, (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), James F. Welch, Co. H, 27th Regiment Georgia Infantry.

<sup>42</sup> For birthplace and approximate year, "Confederate Records," digital images, *Fold3*, (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed 22 May 2014), G.W. Welch, Co. B, 53rd Regiment Georgia Infantry, "Certificate of Disability for Retiring Invalid Soldier." "Georgia, Confederate Pension Applications, 1879-1960," digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), G.W. Welch, 1889. Death after date of last "Application for Allowance."

<sup>43</sup> Janie Revill, compiler, *Edgefield County, S.C. Records* (Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1984) probate abstract of John Harris, p. 96, lists his daughter, Sophronia, wife of Wesley C. Welch.

<sup>44</sup> Sardis Baptist Church Cemetery (2121 Keys Ferry Rd., McDonough, Henry County, Georgia), John W. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 17 October 2014.

<sup>45</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Mount Carmel, p. 831, dwelling 323, family 323, Wesley C. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 127.

<sup>46</sup> "Confederate Records," digital images, *Fold3*, (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), G. M. Welch, Co. G, 63rd Regiment Georgia Infantry.

<sup>47</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Mount Carmel, p. 831, dwelling 323, family 323, Wesley C. Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 127.

- ix. Odolphus L. Welch, born 1850<sup>49</sup>
  - Sarah Allen, married 11 September 1866<sup>50</sup>
    - x. Zilla G. Welch, born 1868<sup>51</sup>
    - xi. George B. Welch, born 1870<sup>52</sup>
    - xii. Escar Welch, born 1872<sup>53</sup>
  - Susan Pearson, married 9 March 1879<sup>54</sup>

Wesley died 15 May 1881.<sup>55</sup> He did not write a will and his estate was divided as follows:

Name	Stated Relationship	Partial Amount	Final Amount
Susan Welch	Widow	475.00	19.45
W.B. Welch	“my distributive share”	475.00	19.45
J.W. Welch	“my distributive share”	475.00	19.45
L.A. Welch Sikes	“my distributive share”	475.00	19.45
G.B., Z., & Escar Welch	“minor heirs at law of W.C. Welch”	475.00 each	58.35 [19.45 ea.]
O.L. Welch		475.00	19.45

<sup>48</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry Co., Geo., pop. sch., Mount Carmel, p. 831, dwell. 323, fam. 323, Wesley C. Welch.

<sup>49</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry Co., Geo., pop. sch., Mount Carmel, p. 831, dwell. 323, fam. 323, Wesley C. Welch

<sup>50</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785-1950,” digital image, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 April 2013), Wesley C. Welch and Sally Allen, 1866; citing Spalding County, Georgia, Marriage Book A:308.

<sup>51</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Sandy Ridge, Dist. 767, ED 69, p. 206B, dwelling 249, family 263, Wesley Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 152.

<sup>52</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Henry Co., Geo., pop. sch., Sandy Ridge, Dist. 767, ED 69, p. 206B (stamped), dwell. 249, fam. 263, Wesley Welch.

<sup>53</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Henry Co., Geo., pop. sch., Sandy Ridge, Dist. 767, ED 69, p. 206B (stamped), dwell. 249, fam. 263, Wesley Welch.

<sup>54</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785-1950,” digital image, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 April 2013), W.C. Welch and Susan Pearson, 1879.

<sup>55</sup> Rhoda Apperson Bowen, *Henry County, Georgia Obituaries 1879-1899* (Alpharetta, GA: WH Wolfe Associates, 1993), 325, 327. New Hope Untied Methodist Church Cemetery, (1960 New Hope Rd., Locust Grove, Henry County, Georgia), Wesley C. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 1 November 2014.

L.C. Wolf	“my distributive share”	475.00	19.45
M.A. Weaver	“heirs at law of Franklin Welch the latter being an heir of W.C. Welch”	118.75	1/4 of 19.45
T.W. Welch		75.00	43.75 & 1/4 of 19.75
T.T. Barnes		118.75	1/4 of 19.45
W.H. Welch		118.75	1/4 of 19.45
N.F. Means	“my distributive share”	475.00	19.45
Gus.W. Welch	“my interest in said estate”	475.00	19.45
<i>Source:</i> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990, Henry County, Inventories & Appraisements, 1860–1954, Vol. D–E,” digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="http://www.familysearch.org">http://www.familysearch.org</a> : accessed 15 May 2014), W.C. Welch, D:229, 240.			

Our William H. is not an heir in Wesley's estate. The W.H. Welch listed is a son of James Franklin Welch, who was enumerated 44 households from Wesley in 1860.<sup>56</sup> Lydia was the mother of four children. One, William H., born before her marriage to Wesley, and the three sons with Wesley before her death:

- Whitfield B.
- James F.
- Gustavous W.

No grave or obituary has been found for Lydia,<sup>57</sup> but she likely died between the birth of her last child, Gustavous, in 1833, and Wesley's second marriage, to Sophronia, ca. 1837, based on the birth of John W. in 1838.<sup>58</sup> The ages of Wesley's children in the 1850 census fit his 1830–1840 census households. William H. is missing in 1840 and may be living with other relatives.

Wesley C. Welch census households

1830 <sup>a</sup>	1840 <sup>b</sup>	1850 <sup>c</sup>
Male 20–29 [likely Wesley]	Male 30–40 [Wesley]	W.C., m, 43

<sup>56</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Mount Carmel, p. 838, dwelling/family 367, James F. Welsh; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 29 June 2014); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 127.

<sup>57</sup> Search of newspapers for obituary between 1830–1840 found no results, *Newspapers.com*; *GenealogyBank.com*; *NewspaperArchive.com*; *ChroniclingAmerica.loc.gov*; *Digital Library of Georgia*. Search for grave of Lydia: *Findagrave.com*; *GAGenWeb*; *GA Tombstone Transcription Project*; Henry County cemeteries where Welch's are buried, onsite search.

<sup>58</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 April 2013), memorial no. 13,402,140, John W. Welch (1838-1884), photographs by Kelly Guss; citing Sardis Baptist Church Cemetery, McDonough, Henry County, Georgia.

Female 20–29 [likely Lydia]	Female 20–30 [Sophronia]	Sophonria, f., 30
Male 5–9 [likely William H.]		
Male under 5 [likely Whitfield]	Male 10–15 [Whitfield & James]	Jas. F., m, 19
	Male 5–10 (Gustavous)	G.W., m, 17
	Male under 5 [John W.]	J.W., m, 12
		L.A., f, 10
		G.M., m, 6
		L.A., f, 4
		N.F., f, 2
<p>a. 1830 U.S. census, Butts County, Georgia, population schedule, p. 160, Wesley C. Welch; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (<a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 16 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 16.</p> <p>b. 1840 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 767, p. 318, p. 6, W.C. Welch; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (<a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 16 April 2013); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 43.</p> <p>c. 1850 U.S. census, Henry County, Georgia, population schedule, Dist. 42, p. 191B, dwelling 61, family 61, W. C. Welch; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (<a href="http://www.ancestry.com">http://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 30 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 73.</p>		

The Wesley C. Welch and William Harrison families lived near each other and interacted for many years:

- William Harrison and Wesley C. Welch both paid taxes in Butts County in 1831.<sup>59</sup>
- William Harrison buys Lot 207, District 8, in Henry County on 1 January 1835 and Wesley witnesses the deed.<sup>60</sup>
- William Harrison then sells the lot to Wesley on 18 December 1835.<sup>61</sup>
- They both pay taxes in Henry County in 1837 and from 1852–1857.<sup>62</sup>
- William Harrison is appointed guardian of the children of James, his deceased son, and Wesley serves as security.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Butts County, Georgia, 1831 Tax Digest, unpaginated entries arranged alphabetically; all entries for Harrison and Welch surnames; drawer 61, roll 2, Georgia Department of Archives and History, Morrow.

<sup>60</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Deeds 1834-1839, G:249; William Harrison, 1835; GSA microfilm 9:37, Georgia Archives, Morrow.

<sup>61</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Deeds 1834-1839, G:424; Harrison to Welch, 1835; GSA microfilm 9:37, Georgia State Archives, Morrow.

<sup>62</sup> Henry County, Georgia, 1831, 1837, 1852–1859 Tax Digests, arranged chronologically; all years read for entries relating to Harrison, Welch; FHL microfilm 159,152.

<sup>63</sup> “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990, Butts County, Wills and Returns, 1845–1851,” digital images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 22 May 2014), William Harrison, 168.

- William Harrison and Wesley are enumerated one page apart in 1830 and next door to each other in 1850.

WINNEY HARRISON

The fact that Lydia's name was Welch when she married Wesley in 1828 indicates she had married a Welch previously. This is also supported by Winney Harrison's probate distribution. Wesley C. Welch was appointed administrator of Winney's estate, which was divided as follows.<sup>64</sup>

Winney Harrison estate distribution

Name	Stated Relationship	Amount
F.M. Hail	“for wife, Laura, granddaughter of said Winney Harrison”	\$80
Enoch W. Poole	“for wife, Winney A.F., granddaughter of said Winney Harrison”	\$80
George W. Welch	“in right of myself”	\$160
William H. Welch	“my distributive share”	\$160
Wesley C. Welch		\$160
<i>Source:</i> Henry County, Georgia, “Returns, 1853–1881,” p. 454–456, Winney Harrison (1858); browsable images, “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="http://www.familysearch.org">http://www.familysearch.org</a> : accessed 25 October 2014), path: Probate Records > Henry County > Returns, 1853–1881, images 270–271 of 410.		

These distributions indicate that Winney was not the mother of William Harrison's children, therefore his second wife, and that she was the mother of these Welch children:

1. [–?–] Welch, likely born 1802–1804<sup>65</sup> [his son, William H., inherits his share]
2. George W. Welch, born 14 May 1803, South Carolina, and died 27 June 1893, Henry County.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>64</sup> Henry County, Georgia, “Letters of Administration, 1856–1929,” p. 16, Winney Harrison (1858); browsable images, “Georgia, Probate Records, 1742–1990,” *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 May 2014), path: Probate Records>Henry County>Letters of Administration, 1856–1929, image 35 of 624.

<sup>65</sup> 1820 U.S. census, Edgefield County, South Carolina, population schedule, p. 122B, line 12, Wenny Welch; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 12 December 2014); citing NARA microfilm publication M33, roll 211.

<sup>66</sup> New Hope Methodist Cemetery (Locust Grove, Henry County, Georgia), George W. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 17 October 2014. Rhoda Apperson

3. Lucy Ann Welch, born ca. 1805, died after 1840.<sup>67</sup> She married William Rollins, 10 January 1828, Butts County.<sup>68</sup> Lucy and William had two children:
  - i. Laura Ann Rollins, born 25 July 1835.<sup>69</sup> She married Francis M. Hail, 7 March 1850, Henry County.<sup>70</sup>
  - ii. Winney Ann Rollins, born ca. 1838. She married Enoch W. Pool, 24 December 1854, Newton County, Georgia.<sup>71</sup>
4. Wesley C. Welch, born 22 September 1806, South Carolina, and died 18 May 1881, Henry County.<sup>72</sup>

No name has been found for the unnamed son of Winney. He apparently died before the age of 26. Probate records in South Carolina and Georgia found no candidate for him,<sup>73</sup> nor did deed indexes<sup>74</sup> or miscellaneous records.<sup>75</sup>

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Bowen, *Henry County, Georgia Obituaries 1879-1899* (Alpharetta, GA: WH Wolfe Associates, 1993), 326.

<sup>67</sup> 1840 U.S. census, Paulding County, Georgia, population schedule, District 832, p. 110, William Rollins; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 16 June 2014); citing National Archives microfilm publication T704, roll 48.

<sup>68</sup> “Georgia, County Marriages, 1785-1950,” index and images, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 20 April 2013), William Rollins and Lucy Ann Welch, 1828.

<sup>69</sup> Sardis Baptist Church Cemetery, (McDonough, Henry County, Georgia), Laura A. Rollins Hale marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 17 October 2014.

<sup>70</sup> Henry County, Georgia, Marriages, 1837–51:96, Francis M. Hail to Laura A. Rollins (1850); images, “Georgia, Marriage Records From Select Counties, 1828–1978,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : viewed 7 June 2016).

<sup>71</sup> Newton County, Georgia, Marriages, 1852–62:139, Enoch W. Poole to Winney A. Rollins (1854); images, “Georgia, Marriage Records From Select Counties, 1828–1978,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : viewed 7 June 2016).

<sup>72</sup> Nancy J. Cornell, *1864 Census for Re-Organizing the Georgia Militia*, (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000), 352; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 April 2013). New Hope Methodist Cemetery (Locust Grove, Henry County, Georgia), Wesley C. Welch marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, 17 October 2014.

<sup>73</sup> Edgefield County, South Carolina, General Index to Wills, 1787–1957, FHL microfilm 23,870. Edgefield County, South Carolina, General Index to Loose Probate Papers, 1785–1957, FHL microfilm 162,236. James E. and Vivian Wooley, *Edgefield County, SC Wills, 1787–1836* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1991). Butts County, Georgia, Appraisements, sales, wills and returns, v. A, 1826–1841, Welch surname; FHL microfilm 164,764. Butts County, Georgia, Guardian Bonds, 1828–1838, Dr. 7:75; Welch surname, Henry County, Georgia, Bonds and Wills, 1822–1834, Welch surname; Dr. 8:41, Henry County, Georgia, Annual Returns, 1821–1835, Welch surname; Dr. 8:65, Georgia Archives, Morrow.

<sup>74</sup> Edgefield County, South Carolina, Conveyance Books, vols. 36–44, 1819–1830, SCA microfilm ED99–ED101, South Carolina Department of Archives, Columbia. Edgefield County, South Carolina, Deed Indexes, Grantor 1786–1838, SCA microfilm ED001 and Grantee 1787–1839, SCA microfilm ED007, South Carolina Department of Archives, Columbia. Butts County, Georgia,

## CONCLUSION

Though there is no record that directly states who the parents are of William H. Welch, several sources contain information to lead to a conclusion. The 1880 census stating that Lydia's sister, Ellender, is William H.'s aunt along with the distribution of Lydia's share of her father's estate unmistakably shows that relationship. Lydia's son, Gustavous, named her as his mother on the voucher. The equal division of her portion therefore identifies his brothers as William H., Whitfield B., and James F., the only children of Lydia.

The 1830 census supports William H.'s birth before Lydia's marriage to Wesley C. Welch. Family naming patterns can be seen: three of Lydia's sons named their own sons after their brothers and grandfathers:

- William H. named two of his sons: James Franklin and Gustavous.
- James F. named a son William H.
- Gustavous named a son William

The distribution of Winney Harrison's estate shows that she had a son, the father of William H., who had died. This is corroborated by the fact that his mother, Lydia, had the surname Welch when she married her brother-in-law, Wesley C. Welch.

Taken together, it is clear that William H. Welch was the son of Lydia Harrison and the unknown son of Winney Welch Harrison.

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Index to Deeds, Dr. 6:68, 1825–1895, Welch surname, Georgia Archives, Morrow.

<sup>75</sup> Edgefield Chapter SC Genealogical Society, compiler, *The ABCD's of Edgefield Genealogy: Annotations to Bible Records Cemeteries of Families Death Notices* (Edgefield, SC: 1995). Old Edgefield District Genealogy Society, Edgefield County, *SC Family Cemeteries & Death Notices From the SC Baptist Newspaper* (Edgefield, SC: Olde Edgefield District Genealogical Society, 2003). Edgefield County, South Carolina, Court Minutes of Common Pleas & General Sessions, 1821–1826, Welch surname; SCA microfilm ED84, South Carolina Department of Archives, Columbia. Butts County, Georgia, Estray records, 1825–1827, Welch surname; Dr. 7:73, Georgia Archives, Morrow. Butts County, Georgia, Inferior Court Minutes, 1826–1838, Dr. 7:73; Welch surname, Georgia Archives, Morrow.